

REMARKS

Claims 9-34 are pending, and stand rejected for double patenting over Claims 1-13 of U.S. Patent No. 5,440,860 and Claims 1 and 8 of U.S. Patent No. 5,112,632. In response, Applicants enclose an appropriate terminal disclaimer.

Claim 22 has been revised to further clarify the invention.

In response to the new matter rejection, Applicants have canceled those items indicated as new matter. Applicants believe that an evidentiary showing would demonstrate the inherency of this matter in the original application as filed (and thus rebut the "new matter" finding). However, in light of the Examiner's finding that the "subject matter claimed in the instant application is fully disclosed in the ['860 and '632] patent[s] and is covered by [those] patent[s]" (pages 4 and 5 of the 1/9/97 Office Action), the time and expense of such an evidentiary showing is deemed unnecessary.

Copies of the references which were lined through on the PTO 1449 form have now been provided with the concurrently filed Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, and the Examiner is asked to consider these references and to so indicate.

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Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in light of the enclosed terminal disclaimer, and an allowance of pending Claims 9-34.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael P. Mazza", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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